

FISCAL NOTE

HB 421 - SB 638

April 3, 2007

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Commissioner of Finance and Administration to amend the current Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Medicaid waiver, operated by the Division of Mental Retardation, to include persons with autism.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$6,326,400

Other Fiscal Impact – Increase Federal Expenditures - \$11,099,200

Assumptions:

- According to the Department of Education's Special Education Division, there are approximately 3,362 children between the ages of 3 and 21 with Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- The National Autism Association estimates that 80% of Americans with autism are under the age of 18.
- In order to estimate the number of autistic adults in Tennessee, it is assumed that 3,362 individuals represent the 80% of Tennesseans under the age of 18 with autism. If such, there would be approximately 841 $((3,362 \div .80) \times .20)$ autistic adults in the state.
- The Division of Mental Retardation estimates that 50%, or 421, of the adults would qualify for the waiver services. Of this amount, 38%, or 160 adults would be served in the Main Waiver and 62%, or 261 adults would be served in the SD Waiver.
- The Main Waiver individuals will receive \$209 per day for services. Such will increase expenditures by \$12,205,600 $(160 \times \$209 \times 365)$.
- The SD Waiver individuals will receive \$20,000 per year for services. Such will increase expenditures by \$5,220,000 $(261 \times \$20,000)$.
- DMRS receives funding for waiver services through interdepartmental revenues from the TennCare program.
- The estimated increase in expenditures is \$17,425,600. Of this amount, \$6,326,400 will be state funds and \$11,099,200 will be federal funds at a 63.695% match rate.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a distinct "W".

James W. White, Executive Director